Terrains: Mapping learning environment evaluation across the design and education landscape. Towards the evidence-based design of educational facilities.

Abstracts due date: 17th of April, 2015
Audience registration due date: 31st of May, 2015

The disciplines of architecture and education are witnessing a burgeoning interest in designing learning environments for contemporary education. There is growing evidence that designers and teachers are working closer than ever before to build spaces to meet the needs of 21st century learners. But are these spaces working as intended?

To progress this discussion, partners supporting the Australian Research Council’s Evaluating 21st Century Learning Environments Linkage Project, in association with the University of Melbourne’s Learning Environments Applied Research Network, invite current or recent research higher degree students to submit papers for the 2015 Terrains International RHD Symposium.

Symposium theme
Terrains, will be a cartographic examination of learning environment evaluation. It invites all higher-degree students working in learning environments to assemble and present a short synopsis of their research. Through the careful sequencing of papers, and input after each paper by expert interlocuteurs, Terrains will explore how this research addresses evaluation of such spaces, and how this constitutes a map of current thinking in learning environment evaluation. As such, Terrains will be a working symposium, with new knowledge being generated from the exchange of ideas occurring around each presentation.

The foci of abstracts may include, but are not limited to:
- The conceptualizing and designing of learning spaces for future learners;
- Relationships between learning spaces and pedagogy;
- The technical performance of educational facilities;
- Evidence-based design of educational facilities;
- Learning spaces as catalysts for change;
- The inhabitation of new learning spaces;
- Evaluating learning spaces (not listed above)

Submission of abstracts
Post graduate researchers are invited to submit abstracts for blind peer review. Papers will be selected based on academic merit, and their capacity to inform evaluation issues. Abstracts should be no more than 250 words and should be submitted to Heather Mitcheltree via email (mhd@unimelb.edu.au) by the 17th of April, 2015.

For full details visit the E21LE website (www.e21le.com).